

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraph [0011] with the following paragraph:

[0011] In another particular form, the present invention provides an articulating module for an external fixation device. The articulating module includes a central member, a first pivot segment and a second pivot segment. The first pivot segment is coupled to the central member for driven rotation about a first pivot axis. The second pivot segment is coupled to the central member for driven rotation about a second pivot axis. The second pivot axis is substantially ~~parallel~~ perpendicular to the first pivot axis.

Please replace Paragraph [0055] with the following paragraph:

[0055] The common centers of curvature of the first and second arc segments 72 and 74 of the second frame assembly define a rotational axis about which the first bone portion 12a can be rotated relative to the second bone portion 12b. Significantly, this rotational axis can be ~~positioned~~ positioned generally coincident with a long axis of the bone 12. Relative movement between the bone segments 12 and 12b is gear driven and thereby controlled and gradual.

Please replace Paragraph [0058] with the following paragraph:

[0058] The translation segments 104 will be understood to be identical. As perhaps most clearly shown in the environmental view of FIG. 5, the translation

segments 104 defines a groove 118 for slidably receiving a portion of the associated plate member 112. The translation segments 104 define a generally rectangular opening 120 and include a threaded worm 122. In the embodiment illustrated, the plate members 112 of the mounting portions 102 include a rectangular extension or carriage 124. These rectangular extensions 124 define the apertures 116 for receiving the posts 114. The worm 122 threadably engages an aperture ~~126~~ 129 of the rectangular extension 124. The rectangular extension 124 is sized to be slidably received within the opening 120. Rotation of the worm 122 in a first direction operates to linearly translate the mounting member 102 relative to the associated translation segment 104 along an axis parallel to an axis defined by the worm 122.

Please replace Paragraph [0061] with the following paragraph:

[0061] The first pivot segment 106 downwardly extends from the upper translation segment 104. The first pivot segment 106 is illustrated to include a pair of spaced apart flanges 125 and a worm 126. The worm 126 threadably engages the first plurality of teeth 134 of the central member 110. A pin 142 (shown in FIG. 5) connects the flanges 125 with the plate central member 110 and defines a secondary pivot axis between the first and second pivot segments 106 and 108 of the module 20. The flanges 125 are cut-away to accommodate pivoting of the second pivot segment 108 about the pin 142. A set screw 143 is provided for selectively preventing relative rotation between the first pivot ~~segment~~ segment 106 and the central member 110.

Please replace Paragraph [0064] with the following paragraph:

[0064] The module 20 defines two (2) perpendicular axes (i.e., along the pins 142 and 148) about which the bone portions 12a and 12b may be angulated relative to one another. This relative angulation is gear driven and gradual. Additionally, the module 20 includes two perpendicular translation axes (i.e., coincident with the two worms 122 ~~and 146~~ shown in FIG. 5). Again, this translation is gear driven and gradual. Furthermore, rotational axes are defined at the interconnections between the module 20 and the frame assemblies 16 and 18 (i.e., along the axis of the posts 114).